

13 June 1972

OLC 720707

Honorable Charles B. Rangel
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Rangel:

I have been asked to respond to your letter to the Director of 6 June 1972 in which you ask the exact number and date of the Executive Order under which certain intelligence reports, which have been the subject of previous correspondence with the Agency, have been classified.

The reports in question were classified under Executive Order 10501 originally issued 5 November 1953, subsequently amended, and reissued as revised 1 January 1970. That Order, as you may know, has been superseded by Executive Order 11652, effective 1 June 1972. In addition, the reports in question contain information relating to intelligence sources and methods, for which the Director of Central Intelligence has a statutory responsibility for protection against unauthorized disclosure (50 U.S.C. 403(d)(3)). These are the authorities which inhibit us from complying with your request under the Freedom of Information Act as provided in 5 U.S.C. 552(b).

It is hoped that the above information is fully responsive to the questions you raised in your letter of 6 June. In view of your continued interest in this matter, we have again undertaken a review of all of the reports which you have requested to see whether it is possible at this date to declassify at least some of them so that they may be made available to you on an unrestricted basis. We hope this review will be completed in the near future, at which time I will promptly advise you of the results.

Meanwhile, as we have previously indicated, we stand ready to provide you, at your convenience, with an oral briefing on the worldwide narcotics traffic covering all the significant points contained in the individual intelligence reports which you have requested.

Sincerely,

John M. Maury
Legislative Counsel

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